

**Academic Program Assessment Plan:
Communication & Rhetoric (minor)**

**Department of English & World Languages
College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHASS)
Colorado State University-Pueblo**

Plan developed by Yvonne J. Montoya, Associate Professor of Communication & Rhetoric and Kevin Van Winkle, Assistant Professor of English (February, 2019)

Primary Contact for Assessment: Kevin Van Winkle

The Relation of the Communication & Rhetoric Program to College Mission and Departmental Expectations

The Communication & Rhetoric minor advances the mission of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences in numerous ways. Students will “develop critical thinking skills” in each course within the curriculum, will focus on various “ethical perspectives” in the development and communication of messages, be able to function as “responsible citizens and professionals” through the development of professional communication and learn how to be “responsive to challenges of a diverse society” by taking courses that teach students how to communicate across genders and cultures.

Additionally, the Communication & Rhetoric minor advances the expectations of the Department of English & World Languages by helping students develop their communication, language, listening, speaking and composition skills. Communication & Rhetoric minors are expected to think critically about their surrounding contexts, communicate effectively in various environments with numerous stakeholders, and effectively articulate information about their careers and/or disciplines.

Communication & Rhetoric Program Description

The Communication & Rhetoric minor at CSU-Pueblo is designed for students interested in developing effective written and verbal communication skills. It provides a course of study that emphasizes both a theoretical understanding and practical application of communication that prepares students technically, professionally, and personally to successfully navigate a variety of challenges.

The Communication & Rhetoric minor consists of 18 credits, comprised of required and elective courses. Six credits must be earned at the 300-400 level. Acceptance of transfer courses is contingent upon approval by the faculty program coordinator. No more than three credits of an independent study can count toward the minor. All students must complete the 18 credits with a grade of C or better in required classes. Students cannot count courses being used for a major or minor requirement in ENG or MCCNM as both a required course and as an elective for COMR.

Communication & Rhetoric Program Goals

1. To provide individual courses, as well as an academic minor in Communication & Rhetoric, that foster students' abilities to describe, analyze, critique, explore, and create ideas based on information consumed.
2. To cultivate students' abilities to communicate in various modes, to include written, oral, and non-verbal.
3. To develop students' understanding of genders and cultures and how these factors influence the communication context.
4. To prepare students to communicate effectively in both professional and personal contexts.
5. To prepare students to better communicate the knowledge learned in their major area of study when they enter their careers.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes

1. Produce and deliver content and messaging appropriate in a variety of contexts.
2. Work in small groups to facilitate collaboration with others.
3. Create artifacts of communication that reflect critical cultural awareness.
4. Communicate contextually relevant knowledge.

Relation of Curriculum to Expected Student Outcomes

	Outcome #1 Produce and deliver content and messaging appropriate in a variety of contexts.		Outcome #2 Work in small groups to facilitate collaboration with others.		Outcome #3 Create artifacts of communication that reflect cultural awareness.		Outcome #4 Communicate contextually relevant knowledge.	
COMR 103 Speaking & Listening	B	O, S, A, E	B	A	B	S, A, O	B	O, A, S, E
COMR 204 Introduction to Rhetoric	B-I	P, A	B-I	O, P, A	B-I	P, A, E	B-I	P, A, E
COMR 305 Communicating in Professions	I-M	PF, P, A	I	A	I-M	P, S, A, PF	I-M	A, PF, S, P
COMR 493 Seminar	M	S, A, P	M	A	M	S, A, P	M	A, S, P

Level of Expected Mastery:

B=Beginner

I=Intermediate

M=Master

NA=Not expected to cover

Means to Achieve Mastery

P=Paper

O=Outline

S=Speech

A=Assignments/Activities

E=Exams/Quizzes

PF=Portfolio/CV/Resume

Dissemination of Program Goals & Outcomes

To inform the public and the University, written accounts of current program goals, expected student outcomes, and assessment activities are published in the Colorado State University-Pueblo Catalog which is available on the University's website and listed on the Assessment webpage at CSU-Pueblo. The program goals will also be made available through our departmental webpage, which is linked to the University's homepage.

The Communication & Rhetoric coordinator will provide program faculty with electronic copies of the goals, outcomes, and curriculum map. During individual advising sessions students will be informed about their progress toward various learning outcomes based on the courses they have taken or are expected to take.

Assessment Methods/Results/Continuous Processes

Faculty teaching in the minor will evaluate pre-determined assignments/artifacts to determine if COMR minors are meeting the program objectives. The results of assessment activities will be used to make changes to courses and/or curriculum to improve students' mastery of outcomes.